## **Ordering Potassium Chloride**

Ordering Potassium Chloride by intravenous infusion is governed by MAS policy M92-8, "Intravenous Potassium Chloride Infusions." This policy promotes the safe use of intravenous potassium chloride by specifying the **concentrations** (relates to peripheral vs. central line administration) and **rates** (relates to whether the patient is cardiac monitored) that are allowed. CRIS order sets have been built to facilitate ordering potassium chloride in accordance with this policy.

- 1. Determine whether your patient will have continuous cardiac monitoring during the potassium chloride infusion. (Note: MOST patient care units in the CRC and the Clinics DO NOT have cardiac monitoring capability.
- 2. Determine whether your patient has a central or peripheral line.
- 3. Access the order sets by typing 'Potassium Chloride' into the 'Type here to enter order name' box
- 4. Select the order set appropriate to patient's condition

Potassium Chloride * Run *Periph Monit	Peripheral line, cardiac monitored
Potassium Chloride * Run *Periph Unmonit	Peripheral line, NOT cardiac monitored
Potassium Chloride * Run Central Mon	Central line, cardiac monitored
Potassium Chloride * Run Central Unmon	Central line, NOT cardiac monitored

- 5. The order sets contain information about the maximum rate and concentration allowed according to the policy
- 6. Select the order within the order set that is most appropriate for the patient.
- 7. Please note that the amount of potassium, the route modifier (via peripheral line or via central line), and the diluent volume are already completed for you.
- 8. When completing the rate ['Infuse over' field], please consider the following:
  - a. All sources of intravenous potassium must be included when deciding on the infusion time.
  - b. The order forms show the MINIMUM infusion time directly above the ['Infuse over' field] (see example below) for the individual preparation. This infusion time can be used if this infusion is the only source of intravenous potassium. Otherwise, you need to increase the infusion time to account for other intravenous potassium sources.



- 9. Specific information is included in the 'Administration Instructions' field that prints on the label that we send up with the product:
  - a. For all orders, this field contains a note about the maximum rate and a reminder to consider all sources of potassium
  - b. Orders from the cardiac monitored order sets, contain an additional message about the need for continuous cardiac monitoring during the potassium infusion.
- 10. The orders were built to comply with the policy and for the products we stock. Changing the potassium amounts, the diluent, or the diluent amount is not recommended.